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states, so that their reflex effects do not readily flow off in the motor, secretory or trophic regions, a sense of psychalgia or melancholia results; conversely, if the system is less sensitive, and stimuli pass to their reflex effects without inhibition or with loss tension, feelings of pleasure tending towards mania arise, and the consciousness of the ego is exalted.

*Chorea und Psychose.* Dr. SCHUCHARDT. Allg. Zeitschr. f. Psychiatrie, January, 1887.

After an extended and valuable sketch of the history of medical opinion concerning chorea, in which it is shown that the St. Vitus Dance of the Middle Ages, or chorea magna, is more nearly allied to hysteria than to true chorea, and that there is a widely extended opinion among writers upon chorea that it is closely allied with forms of psychic disturbance, Dr. Schuchardt describes six new cases, and concludes that the choreic type of psychosis is characterized by intense irritability and a strong inclination to quite sudden outbreaks of violence. The alien movements are often the first symptoms of impending psychic dissolution. It is now quite well established that the seat of pure chorea is in the brain, and chiefly in the grey substance of both the basal ganglia and the cortex. Its contagious nature by imitation, the close relation between motion and sensation generally, Meynert's conception of chorea as a convulsive phenomenon of irradiation of the fore-brain, the fact that choreic movements desist in sleep and are increased by mental excitement and by passion and fright, all indicate its close affinity with psychic processes. Congruent groups of muscles must constrict distinctly and in definite order if co-ordinated motions are to be produced. If the excentric impulse from the volition centres finds this plexus or series of associated constrictions broken up or inverted or unevenly interrupted, and the symptoms of chorea are present, and causes or is the concomitant of dissolutive, degenerative symptoms in the psychic zones.

*Dichterische Einbildungskraft und Wahnsinn.* Prof. DILTHEY. Leipzig, 1886, pp. 30.

The author opposes the commonly asserted kinship between genius and insanity. They are as unlike as the heat from healthy play or superfluous vitality and the heat of disease. A genius differs from common men in having more energy, in taking greater pleasure in his mental processes, is not pathological, but a perfect or superior type of man. His reciprocity with his environment is closer, his mental images, though vivid, numerous and spontaneous, as is shown by the interesting accounts of their mental processes given by several authors quoted, are especially distinguished, even in geniuses of the most demonic type, by being in closer and more logical relations with the environment and with each other.

*Konrad Deubler.* Von A. DODEL-PORT. 1886.

This remarkable work, in two large volumes, consists of day-book, biography, and correspondence of an Austrian peasant-philosopher. The son of a miner, apprenticed to a miller, later a baker, inn-keeper, guide, and peasant, engaged all his life in hard manual labor and suffering manifold afflictions and indignities, he gradually,